

Hi Hayleigh,

Here is a very brief synopsis of what we've done with PCC data and ESSENCE data as it relates to environmental health (not specific to anything school-related).

Carbon monoxide – our MO PCC graciously set up a query in their Toxicall/Toxitrack system for us that I use to periodically search for any calls related to carbon monoxide exposure. CO is reportable here in MO and, while I do not have any hard number of how many unreported cases we've found, it has been a significant help. The PCC staff has (at our request) even begun to try to get patient full names and dates of birth and COHb (which we need to meet our case definition).

We are very interested in finding other uses for our PCC data and I'm sure they would be glad to help us if we have ideas on how to use it.

ESSENCE – there are other areas of our health department that also use ESSENCE, but this is what I am aware of as it relates to environmental health. Periodically I query ESSENCE chief complaint data using a term search to find possible cases of carbon monoxide exposure. I also have access to a portal in which I can then obtain actual patient names, dates of birth, and sometimes home addresses. For those that seem likely to be a CO exposure, I then request medical records from the hospital where the patient was seen. It can be rather labor intensive, but we find many cases that otherwise would go unreported.

For several years, we have been querying ESSENCE for heat-related illness counts (we don't attempt to obtain actual case reports at this time) and we do intend to test the new HRI query developed by the CSTE workgroup.

We are interested, also, in other environmental health uses for our ESSENCE data.

Thanks, am looking forward to hearing the results of the conference call. Too bad we didn't have a "big brother" option to mute folks, but oh well. Better luck next time.

Carol (Missouri)